

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:AMBASSADOR ROOT:IW

APPROVED BY AF/W:JLOUGHRAN

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R 222200Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 014109

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IC, EMIN, EAGR

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S CONSULTATIONS

FROM AMBASSADOR ROOT

FOLLOWING FYI EMBASSY:

1. FERKESSEDOUGOU SUGAR PROJECT: KIGBAFOR, DURING RECENT BRIEF VISIT US, TOLD TORCZYNER BY PHONE HE FEELS EXIM INTERVENTION WITH LANG AND ISC (FOLLOWING MY REPRESENTATION TO EXIM) HAS HAD DESIRED EFFECT. HANS LANG HIMSELF TO COME TO IVORY COAST TO OVERSEE FINAL PHASE OF PROJECT ("HOSTAGE" TO ITS SUCCESS, IN KIGBAFOR'S WORDS) AND EXIM FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES HOLDING PARENT COMPANY ISC RESPONSIBLE FOR OUTCOME. KIGBAFOR PUTS FINAL COST AT DOLS 66 MILLION (ORIGINAL DOLS 63 MILLION PLUS ADDITIONAL DOLS 3 MILLION NEGOTIATED LAST DECEMBER). LANG HAS SINCE ASKED FOR ADDITIONAL DOLS 500 THOUSAND BUT SODESUCRE HAS NOT RESPONDED- SODESUCRE HAS NOT YET GIVEN EXIM UP-TO-DATE ACCOUNTING.

2. PICKANDS MATHER IRON ORE PROJECT: FINAL TEXT SYNDI-
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CATE AGREEMENT (FOR FINAL PHASE OF EXPLORATION) HAS BEEN

FORWARDED TO SEC STATE FOR MINES GUI DIBO FOR FINAL APPROVAL. ANNOUNCEMENT COULD COME BY END THIS MONTH. AMERICAN INITIATIVE IN PROJECT WILL BE EMPHASIZED AT OUR REQUEST. PARTICIPANTS IN SYNDICATE WILL BE JAPANESE (40), BRITISH STEEL (20), DUTCH (10 - THROUGH AMERICAN FIRM OREMCO), TWO FRENCH COMPANIES (10), PICKANDS MATHER INTERNATIONAL (15), AND GOIC STATE COMPANY SODEMI (5). AGREEMENT COVERS 1974 AND 1975, BY END OF WHICH TIME DECISION ON WHETHER OR NOT TO PROCEED WITH DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE TAKEN. HALF MILLION DOLLARS TO BE SPENT IN THIS TWO-YEAR PERIOD.

3. CHASE MANHATTAN PROJECT FOR BANK IN IVORY COAST: CHASE READY TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS ON BASIS NEW DRAFT AGREEMENT. TORCZYNER AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS FROM MIN FINANCE AND SERY GNOLEBA. (FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK ALSO HOPES TO SOUND OUT GOIC ON POSSIBILITY ESTABLISHING BRANCH IN IVORY COAST.)

4. AM STILL DISCUSSING WPTL CONFERENCE HOTEL BILLS WITH JUDGE THOMPSON, WHO WILL PROVIDE ME APPROPRIATE RESPONSE PRIOR MY RETURN O/A FEB 4.

5. OPIC NEGOTIATING CONTRACT FOR TECHNICAL CENTER STUDY WITH PARTICIPATING COMPANIES, HOPES TO HAVE ALL SIGNATURES AFFIXED BY END OF MONTH WHEN PRESS RELEASE CAN BE ISSUED. PROJECT SHOULD BEGIN TO MOVE FORWARD ONCE THAT HAPPENS, AS CANDIDATE TO CONDUCT STUDY HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AND IS ABOUT TO BE SIGNED. MCCLELLAND OF CONGRESSMAN VANDER JAGT'S OFFICE WILL BE SPENDING SUBSTANTIAL PART OF HIS TIME WORKING WITH OPIC ONCE STUDY UNDERWAY. KISSINGER

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